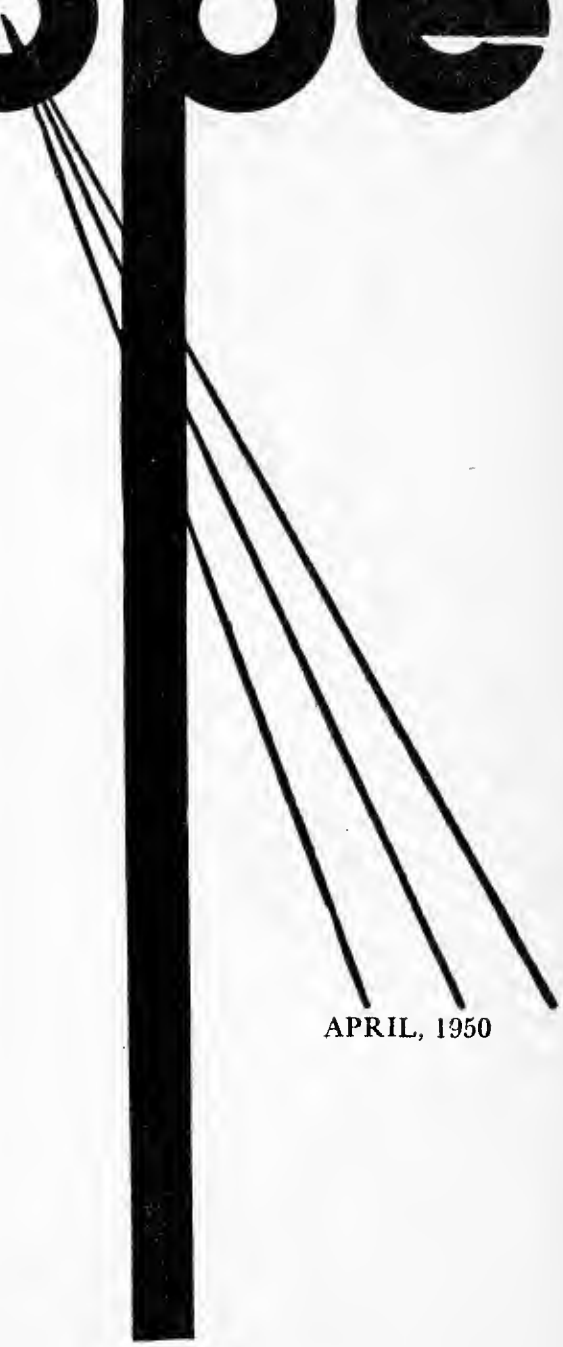
The Scope



APRIL, 1950

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THE SCOPE

Volume XXI

No. 3

APRIL, 1950

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The Human Individual

By Laurence P. Folsom, Opt. D.
Director, Distinguished Service Foundation

PART TWO

Let us review for a moment. The human individual has a body. Within that body is the Subconscious Mind which concerns itself with the automatic functions and balance of the body, the repair and regular rebuilding of its parts and its normal functionings. Superimposed upon these two is the Conscious Mind, a later development in evolutionary time, the task of which is to enable the individual to better adapt himself to his environment.

As optometrists we are concerned with visual problems. We are one of those groups who seek to "know more and more about less and less"; that is, our specialty is Vision. And like others who specialize, we lose a balance of understanding; we too often overlook the fact that the human individual is a three-phase unit of which the body is the lesser and temporal phase. But since the patients expect us to show results in our work of the care of their physical eyes, we must do so in terms which they can understand, i.e., in results like improved efficiency and comfort. But that is no reason why we should allow our own minds to follow a single track; it is no excuse for us to go all out for precision in "technique" and overlook the greater factors which enable technique to do its work well.

* * *

What are the outstanding measures by which you determine the degree of success of any individual? Mainly, you expect him to have found happiness and prosperity. Suppose we discuss them for a moment.

Most optometrists do some gardening, or buy their food from someone who does; the source of all human food is the soil or the sea. It doesn't take much intelligence to understand that this is a universe of cause-and-effect. For every action there is an associated reaction. If we want to raise beans we must plant beans; if we want to raise potatoes we have to plant potatoes. Likewise, if we want happiness we have to plant happiness. Whether we garden in the soil of the earth or in the field of social life, the same rule holds good. We reap what we sow and reap MORE than we sow. Providence gives the increase; our lives become what we make them.

Now what about Prosperity? It is not necessarily a concomitant of Happiness. Wealth does not produce happiness, usually it brings added cares and unhappiness. But Happiness can produce wealth! The habit of sowing happiness to those with whom you come in contact makes them return to you again and again and in their joy they refer others also.

* * *

This is a true story. If I named the men, the chances are that you would have known of these two optometrists. One was an outstanding technician. He was so strong on technique and so precise in his workmanship that his name ranked high among those illustrious individuals who were the forefathers of Optometry. But he couldn't keep patients. Gradually they turned away and referred no others.

In the same city was another optometrist. His training in visual care was that of the days when they took a horse and buggy and a trial case and did the rounds from house-to-house. But he loved people and in return they loved him. He never lacked for work to do and when he died he left a new house, a nice estate, and a comfortable income to his survivors. The first named optometrist left only outstanding debts.

The moral of these two optometrists is not

hard to understand. I have said that the Subconscious Mind is the original and older mind. Before the days of the brain-mind and voice, telepathy between subconscious minds was the only means of communication. It is still the only means between lower animals. It is a vital and important means of communication between human animals also

The emotions and feelings of the subconscious mind of the optometrist are easily understood by the subconscious mind of the patient. They "get our number", so to speak, without a spoken word. It isn't what a man says, how he says it, nor the clothing that he wears, nor even his outward conduct that is the gauge or standard by which he is judged. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he", and how we "think in our hearts" is an open book to everyone about us. That is why an absolute sincerity and integrity of purpose are the first essentials of any professional man.

* * *

The subconscious mind plays the larger part in human living. The evident purpose of the subconscious mind is to supervise and direct, to "educate" the subconscious mind. That is to say, if we wilfully engage in any act and repeat it regularly enough, the act becomes easier and easier until at last it becomes "instinctive" and automatic. The subconscious mind takes it over and incorporates it into our personality. Instincts, whether primary or acquired, are passed on to subsequent generations. Thus does the race progress.

In the same manner are habit-patterns formed. They are not "brain-patterns"; the subconscious mind does not reside within the brain; it resides within every cell, tissue and organ of our body. It can live without the body; it can leave the body and travel long distances instantly and bring back information from outside sources. But that is a field of study outside of our present paper. I mention it only to show that the individual is NOT his body; he merely lives in the body during his waking hours. Nor is the brain-mind the real individual; the real personality resides within his subconscious self.

It is the subconscious mind which operates the involuntary functions of the human body. A few muscles may be controlled by both the conscious and subconscious mind. For instance, under the demand of the Will, one may converge his eyes for brief periods and look at the tip of his nose. But the general use of the seeing mechanism is an association of involuntary acts. The duction tests, e.g., merely measure such voluntary control as one may show, under the command of the Will, over his extrinsic ocular muscles. They in no way measure the degree of efficiency of those involuntary activities when involved in the act of seeing.

The subconscious mind builds the body in healthy function or diseased tissue entirely from the blood supply. Every cell depends for its health and well-being of function upon such nutriment as the blood stream brings to it. And the blood can bring to it only such nutriment as the individual provides via his digestive system.

Disease does not "strike" us; we build it within ourselves. The vital force of life is electrical in nature and can be measured by delicate electrical instruments. Unless we select those sources of food supply which contain such life-force, and avoid so processing them that their value is destroyed before consumption, we cannot build healthy blood and vitality. These are fundamental truths. The laws of Nature may not be violated by man without penalty. There is no argument about it.

The smartest mental-healer in the world cannot make an organ or function any more efficient than its blood supply will permit. The wisest osteopath in existence cannot create life-force in his patient; he can "release" for use only such life-force as the patient's blood provides for him. The cleverest orthoptist in our land cannot create an amplitude of accommodation nor remove an im-

balance of the ocular musculature resulting from faulty nutrition. And—mind you—the perfectly nourished individual is as rare as the proverbial "snowball in hell."

Underlying the visual problems of accommodative-convergence relationships is the condition of the body itself. I do not propose that optometrists turn into dieticians—certainly not! But I do believe they should be informed and be in a position to understand the problems which underlie the conditions they encounter in the visual mechanisms of their patients and be able to drop a gentle suggestion when needed. If the patient shows interest and picks it up and asks for further information, the optometrist should know what information the patient needs and where she can acquire it. The body can function no better than its quality of blood and its conscious mental state will permit. The visual function is no exception to this rule.

Let me mention one case as an illustration. A patient who had an esophoria of about thirteen degrees for thirty years, for whom no amount of visual training had been successful in restoring comfortable seeing, came down to orthophoria after six months of a corrected-living regime. His amplitude of accommodation increased so that at 53 he wears the same +1.25 bifocal add that he used at 38. Nature established the balance when supplied with the necessary materials and conditions, removing the esophoria and building up the accommodation. The patient's stereopsis increased from 40% to 85%, his visual acuity from 20/25 to 20/15 without lens change. The grayness of his crystalline lens is now nearly cleared. His scintillating scotomata have become a thing of the past. His blood pressure dropped 25 "points" to normal; his weight came down to perfect trim. His thyroid condition cleared and his pulse rate dropped to normal. In every way he is restored to efficient function, visually and physically, and he reads with comfort for the first time in over thirty years.

The underlying problem in many of our patients is not optometric in nature. True it is that our techniques must be sufficiently good so that we know what to do as far as possible. Yes, skilled workmanship is an important part of our work. But above skill and workmanship, we must understand that the quality of our personality is of even greater importance. And above that we must know how to serve, as well as we can within our field, the three phases of human existence.

First, by our techniques and workmanship we administer to the patient's body, particularly to his visual needs.

Second, we must understand the human minds and their relationship to function and habit. We must administer to the patient's conscious longing for friendly attention, for the warmth of a human smile and for the gentleness of true human courtesies.

Third, we must realize that the personality of the patient resides NOT in the body, nor in the conscious-brain; it resides within the inner subconscious self. We administer to that also, not by our skill, nor by our spoken words, but by the actual quality and state of our own inner self.

* * *

Last, let me remind you that a human individual is a psychosomatic unit; a merging of mental and bodily faculties. To better enable optometrists to equip themselves for true human service, The Foundation will publish in the near future, the work of E. E. Rogers, M.D., C.M., L.M.C.C., of Vancouver, B. C., for which work he received The Foundation Gold Medal in Boston this year. When the work is available, information regarding it will appear in the optometric press. Dr. Rogers has already published two earlier books along psychosomatic lines: the coming volume will be particularly adapted to optometric problems in addition to those of general health and function.

M. S. O. 55 - EMERSON 43

Extending their unbeaten string to two games, the M.S.O. hoop team concluded a successful season by defeating the Emerson College quintet 55-43 at Boston Latin School on February 23. An early lead established in the first half served as the margin of victory, the game being played on even terms in the third and fourth quarters.

Center Al Rappaport led the scoring with 15 points, while forwards Burt Gurin and Marty Friedman tossed in 13 and 11 points respectively. Guard Irv Horwitz, set-shooting star, displayed his usual fine brand of floor play. Mel Grossman played a steady game at the other guard position.

Rimming the Basket . . .

In an abbreviated J.V. contest which preceded the varsity game, the M.S.O. squad was nosed out in the final second of play by a score of 18-16.

This was the farewell game for seniors Al Rappaport, Mel Grossman, Arnie Spear, Hal Gerlan and Arnie Katz.

Capt. Arnie Spear deserves the gratitude of the entire team for the unselfish manner in which he sacrificed the opportunity to engage in the contests more actively in order to coach the squad from the sidelines.

Looking ahead to next season, we see the likelihood of a better organized team wearing M.S.O. colors formally entered into a small college basketball league.

As basketball bows out of the picture, the softball season is almost upon us. Get the gloves ready and limber up those arms, men!

The summary:

M. S. O.	G	F	P
Horwitz	3	1	7
Grossman	2	1	5
Rappaport	5	5	15
Friedman	5	1	11
Gurin	6	1	13
Borsky	2	0	4
Spear	0	0	0
Katz	0	0	0
Gerlan	0	0	0
Totals	23	9	55

EMERSON	G	F	P
Weir	5	1	11
Quain	5	0	10
McAllister	3	1	7
Bergeron	1	1	3
Borbas	3	3	9
Barba	0	0	0
Romanoff	1	1	3
Galardi	0	0	0
Totals	18	7	43

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From the Associate Editor . . . .

If we were to ask who the big men in optometry are, there no doubt would be many varied replies since "big" has a different meaning to each individual. Assuming that such a list was assembled we would find those that had contributed new knowledge, new discoveries and so forth, however, we are sure we would also find the "Willie Starks".

Who are the "Willie Starks?" We like to refer to them as the pathology of ethical optometry. They are those so-called humans whose essential desire to secure wealth, quick security, and initial position (if not everlasting in the hearts of many) is far more important to them than the profession they unfortunately represent. Optometry, or for that matter any of the other professions, does not have many such men and luckily there couldn't be, for to be a "Willie Stark" an individual must be endowed with a particular type of personality. Firstly, a "Willie Stark" must have a mind which is so set that he and he alone is the one and all important thing regardless of what direct or indirect influence he may have on the members of his own group. The ethical standards established by them mean absolutely nothing as far as he is concerned. The harm and damage he ultimately brings upon his profession is of little consequence, and the unethical manner in which he serves the public is of little importance. Truly a product of a mental situation, a "Willie Stark" is forced to do these things in order to live with himself and then in turn with his surrounding environment.

These men are especially talked about in the large cities by both professional and non-professional optometrists. They are both praised and scorned. As far as praise is concerned we believe such cheers come from potential "Willie Starks" who as yet have not become kinetic for they are not completely mentally inducted . . . "it takes one to know one." As far as scorn is concerned further elaboration is not necessary. We cannot give these men credit for anything they have done, on the contrary they have done nothing, at least, nothing that is good. They have learned to "sell" glasses cheaply, they have learned to advertise freely, and they have learned to commercialize optometry. In short, they have learned to perform opposite to the ethical standards established by their group.

We can never hope to establish legal means so that such men will be completely eliminated from optometry. And, somehow we feel that we never should, for as long as we have a "Willie Stark" amongst us we will have a yardstick to measure our progress, we will have an incentive to do more to overcome their damage, and most important of all, we will know right from wrong.

M. I.

O. E. Phi News

by Marty Borsky

With the lull in social affairs brought on by the senior exams, now thankfully in the past, Zeta has stretched from its hibernation and has the ball rolling once more.

The annual Omega Spree is scheduled for Friday night, April 14. This affair needs no introduction. (Pardon the cliché, but it's true!) Everyone has a swell time, whether he wants to or not. Last year, those ace partners in crime, Feinbloom and Lesser, garnered *two* of the three bottles of champagne for their table. When cornered, Feinbloom bravely admitted that Lesser was the culprit. The empty bottles were last seen as precious antique vases on the boys' mantle. Returning from this tangent, the affair will be held in the Main Ballroom of the Hotel Gardner, Mass. Avenue at Norway Street, and will begin at 8:30 P.M. It's open to everyone, so let's make it a roaring success by picking up our tickets from any Zeta brother. The ducats are a mere $1.50 per couple.

Following on the heels of the Omega Spree Dr. Henry L. Cabitt, ophthalmologist of the Boston City Hospital Staff, will lecture on "Office Diagnosis of Eye Patients" in the Silver Room of the Hotel Kenmore. This is scheduled for Thursday, April 20 at 8:30 P. M. and is restricted to members and pledges. Dr. Hochstadt, M.D., Chancellor of Omega Epsilon Phi, will deliver an introductory message. A large turnout will mean more of these lectures, fellas, so let's have everybody there. It's to your own advantage.

The grand-daddy of all O. E. Phi affairs, the Annual Installation of Officers and Farewell to Seniors Banquet, is going to be held Saturday, May 13. The evening will begin at 6:30 P.M. with the sumptuous banquet dinner. The officers will be installed, the seniors farewelled, and dancing afterward will be to a fine, well-known local orchestra. Give this night a double check in your date book. An affair is what we members make

(*Please turn to page* 11)

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Senior Segments

By Dave Koplowitz

Recently, while poring over back issues of "Helpful Hints to the Busy Neuro-Muscular Pathway Investigator," we were suddenly struck by the fact that there are only 40 more shopping days left 'til graduation. Frightened at the thought of being so close to graduating, passing the State Boards, opening up our own practice (knock wood), and yet not having any optometric equipment on order, we rushed down to the optical companies to remedy that situation.

As we entered the premises of the Myopic Optical Co., which was first on our list, we were met by an unctuous salesman who sized us up in one second flat as a soon-to-be graduate. "What can I do for you," said he, as meanwhile his hands flew lightly over our person searching for the green stuff. A quiet smile lit our face as we heard the mousetrap snap shut on those busy fingers. Our salesman thereupon became ophthalmically correct in his behavior and ushered us toward an imposing array of gleaming chrome-ornamented instruments.

"The pride of the Myopic Optical Co. is the new Duane's Ophthalmic Chair," said our salesman. "Instead of having the conventional padded knob headrest, which smacks of the barber chair and is therefore unprofessional, we have installed a high forceps which grips the patient closely about the head in the region of the external recti. The high forceps has the advantage of being more professional since it is used by physicians. (Other things used by physicians and thereby made professional by their magic touch are professional under-arm deodorant, professional adhesive tape, professional cash registers, and professional money). In addition, the high forceps acts as a great little practice builder since a number of patients are reported to have developed a convergent squint as a result of a little judicious pressure applied with the forceps."

The instrument shown us next was the famous "Myopic Lensometer." "The 1950 model possesses a number of advantages not to be overlooked by the zealous optometrist," said the salesman, as he began his spiel. "First of all, there are no dials to confuse the operator. One merely places the lens in the lens holder and from there on the lensometer does all the work. If the optometrist should be stupid enough to place the lens in the holder with the ocular surface toward himself, the sensitive lensometer automatically turns the lens over, meanwhile emitting a Bronx cheer to apprise the optometrist of his faux pas. Then, by a process which is too complicated to be understood by optometrists, since it involves the use of arithmetic, the Rx of the lens is computed in the electronic brain of the lensometer. The complete Rx, on a cardboard tab, drops out the lensometer through a slot provided for the purpose. (If you desire, you may also purchase the auxiliary unit at a special auxiliary extra price which prints the patient's fortune on the other side of the cardboard tab). Actually," concluded our salesman, "about the only thing the optometrist has to do to utilize this lensometer, is to pay the electric bills."

Frightened by the difficulties inherent in the proper placing of a lens in the lens holder, and picking up of a cardboard tab, we resolved to wait for a really efficient lensometer before purchasing such an instrument. Since we had spent our potential opening-up capital of 30 cents for carfare and the still smiling salesman informed us that the new 1950 extra-special deluxe custom styled leather lined all steel hydraulic Haplo-Kerato-Stereo-Binoculo-Roto-Tele-Peri - Cylindrical Phoropter in three brand new colors—chartreuse, balenciaga, and midnight pink would not be in until next month, we decided to leave and give our order for one Coquille lens to Jerry Feldman, the lucky boy.

PI OMICRON SIGMA UPSETS OMEGA EPSILON PHI 55-46

By Don Robinson

O. E. Phi's athletic dominance at M.S.O. was given a crushing blow on February 25th at the Hecht House Community Center when P.O.S., a 7 point underdog, reversed the "hot scoop" and emerged as victors by a 9-point edge.

Due to travel delays (there was a mix-up in train schedules or hired car negotiations—I forget which one it was), O.E.Phi found themselves with only five starters (which is par for the course) but with no subs on the bench.

Taking advantage of the opportunities that existed, P.O.S., led by Capt. Arnie Spear, Al Rappaport and "Big Arnie" Katz, produced a quick 14-8 advantage in the first quarter.

However, hearts were still light in the O.E.Phi camp since aid in the form of their sophomore stars was due to arrive soon on the scene and replace those miserable misfits who now wore the banner of O.E.Phi on the basketball court.

In the middle of the second quarter, Marty Borsky arrived sans proper gym clothing. Along with him was noted the presence of Seymour Fenster, the barefoot boy with cheeks of . . . let's see, what were their color? Anyway, Fenster went in for O.E.Phi replacing a guy named Robinson who promptly gave his uniform over to Borsky. But when Borsky got on the floor, it seems his body didn't take too kindly to the strange uniform. As far as the female section of the audience were concerned, Marty was the star of the night. He sure looked cute dribbling with one hand and holding his shorts up with the other.

P.O.S., bent on victory, increased their lead to a 33-18 half-time score as Al Rappaport, taking advantage of his height, sank a field goal practically every time he got in scoring position.

Two other stout-hearted O. E. Phi men, Burt Gurin and Marty Friedman, finally showed up at the start of the second half. With this new spark, O. E. Phi played a tremendous third quarter and cut the lead down to ten points. At this stage of the game Marty Borsky with his set shots and Dr. Mitch Kuhn with some lovely hook shots were at their best. Some of Mitch's shots were, to say the least, startling. It seems his workout in the B.I.P. game paid off in big dividends as he was high scorer for the O. E. Phites with 15 points.

In the opening minutes of the last period, O. E. Phi came with a rush and at one point trailed by only 3 points. But Al Rappaport, although covered by even height in the person of Burt Gurin, was not to be denied as he took his team out of danger with two quick baskets. This final endeavor on his part took him over the 20 point mark for the first time this season as he set an all-season scoring record of 24 points.

This final surge by P.O.S. broke the last bit of attack that O. E. Phi could muster and as the final bell sounded, P.O.S. had won by a comfortable 9 points.

The summary:

PI OMICRON SIGMA	F	G	P	OMEGA EPSILON PHI	F	G	P
Katz lf	2	5	12	Lesser lf	0	1	2
Deckelbaum rf	1	1	3	Robinson rf	0	0	0
Rappaport c	4	10	24	Gerlan c	1	1	3
Spear lg	0	5	10	Kuhn lg	3	6	15
Kaplan rg	0	1	2	Feinblum rg	2	2	6
Gottesman lf	0	2	4	Borsky lf	1	6	13
Zeltzer rf	0	0	0	Friedman rf	1	1	3
Kisner lg	0	0	0	Gurin c	0	1	2
				Fenster rf	0	1	2
Totals	7	24	55	Totals	8	19	46

Afterthoughts . . . A rising vote of appreciation was given Capt. Harry Gerlan of O. E. Phi as he left the game, amid the cheering of the crowd, in the third period on personal fouls. Hal certainly did a tremendous job with what he had to contend with.

To Capt. Arnie Spear of the P.O.S. men goes the award of sportsman of the night. It can be said to the everlasting credit of P.O.S. that they did not choose to run away with

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the game when they had the opportunity. This fact kept the game interesting and lively throughout the entire evening.

Without a doubt, the "star of the night" award must go to Al Rappaport. "Rapp" has been steadily improving in every game this year and in this game he was in top performance. In lieu of the "Charles and David Award" given at the basketball games at the Boston Garden to the outstanding performer, we hereby give to Al the "Bausch and Lomb Award" (with all due respect to A. O.). Your certificate good for ten reject lenses to be cut, edged and drilled awaits you at the Ophthalmic Optics Lab. (to those students who have not been exposed to Dr. March's Ethics course, this is the shop).

Both frats extend thanks to the two referees Fred Moss and Red Grossman for their excellent handling of the game. Their attempt at keeping whistle-tooting down kept the game moving all the way.

Oh yes, not to be forgotten are the other officials. Rufus Dinin did a creditable job as timekeeper as did Doc Bram as scorekeeper. I promised not to rib Doc any more in this column so I'll just let it go at that.

As for my own "stellar performance," I have only one thing to say. Anyone for tennis?

O. E. PHI

(Continued from page 8)

of it, so let's all show up with our pet brunettes for a wonderful evening.

Well, O. E. Phi closed its one game basketball schedule with a 0-1 final record. Zeta suffered the ignominy of a loss to P.O.S. in the interfrat tilt. The general opinion is that they cheated—they used basketball players. The game was not without the birth of a star, however. Dr. "Mitch" Kuhn was skyrocketed into the O. E. Phi Hall of Fame by hooking in 15 points. Nice gung, Mitch.

Defeated on the court but not in spirit, Zeta men, with a drive as "amazing" as John

(Please turn to next page)

VISTASCOPE

Larry Forrest

'SCOPE'S' inquiring reporter asks your opinion.

Let's have a look, glance, peek, glimpse, leer, peep, ogle, view, squint, — —into what you think about:

WHAT REGULAR OCCURRENCE AT M.S.O. JUST PLAIN GRIPES YOU?

"I am not going to gripe about the seat saving situation. I must admit that this is beyond the griping stage. It has become an annoying vestigial appendix which occasionally flares up and provokes unnecessary animosities. But I am not going to gripe about this triviality. Try and make me!"

Ernest Kahn, sophomore class

* * *

"My main gripe is a regular occurrence at M.S.O. Grades are consistently issued late thus keeping the students anxious and on edge. Exam papers should be graded and the marks should be returned to the student a week after examinations. This would serve to prevent a lot of nervous energy from being wasted. Oh how I wish this torture would cease."

Abraham Gottesman, senior class

* * *

"My little gripe probably doesn't count, compared to what others will complain of. I wish they would stop complaining of the students who save 15 or so seats for their friends each morning. It should be realized that one must get up a half hour earlier in order to arrive first at the door. Then too, the early bird must break his back carrying all those extra books to place on seats in the process of reserving them for his friends. Why, what gripes me is the type of low-life who leaves his books on the seats from the preceding day in order to save a chair for *himself.*" *"A Sophomore"*

* * *

"I'll make my gripe mild by calling it a suggestion. Altho' the facilities are not available in our present location, I would like to see two additions made at the new location on Newbury Street. First: a student lounge, comfortably equipped and sizeable should be called into existence. A student should be able to relax during his lunch time. Hence secondly, a cafeteria is necessary, in order that drinks and sandwiches may be obtained."

Jack Deckelbaum, Freshman class

* * *

"Aside from the trimester exams every 10 weeks, one of the things that gripes me most is the constant striving of the administration and faculty to raise and maintain a higher educational level, and yet the student body is treated as tho' they were kindergarten pupils. If this gets by I'll consider it " 'Nuff Sed."

Gerald Feldman, Senior class

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"Most freshmen are not sure whether they are satisfied or not. Shall we say that we are in a state of equilibrium? Perhaps we are like contented cows. However we are afraid that the grass here is growing thin. As we will be moving very soon to greener pastures, we are content to bide our time and just chew our cud. Be assured that we would give our last drop of blood for dear OLD M.S.O."

Howard C. Hebert, Freshman class

O. E. PHI

(Continued from preceding page)

J. Malone himself, are anticipating the spring softball games. Friedman and Gurin have ceased throwing paper balls at the wastebasket and are rapidly converting their room from a basketball court to a softball diamond. Rumor has it that Taranto and Tacelli have temporarily given up throwing the bull in favor of a softball—only temporarily, though.

The latest flash is that nominations for new frat officers will take place at the school on April 13 and will be followed by the Elections on April 27.

In words of one cylinder, that is all the news for now.